

North Berks Radio Model Aircraft Society
Minutes of the AGM held 2nd December 2010

The Chairman opened the meeting at 20:15 and thanked everyone for attending.

1. Apologies:

Apologies were received from the following members: Simon Reeves, Ray Clayton, Joe O'Brien, Tony Roberts, David Neville, David Farey and David Day. All committee members were present; Paul Goddard (Chairman), Bryan Durrant (Treasurer), Dave Bockett (Membership Secretary), Ed Darter (Safety Officer), Darryl Campling. There were 33 people in total present at the meeting.

2. Acceptance of the Minutes:

Alan Miles proposed the minutes of the 2009 AGM be accepted. Phil Stublely seconded the proposal, the minutes were accepted by a unanimous vote.

3. Matters Arising from the minutes:

The Chairman asked if there were any matters arising from the minutes of the 2008 AGM. Alan Miles asked for confirmation as to which option under AOB iv) had been adopted; the chairman confirmed that option a) (Combination safe with the key on a chain) had been adopted.

4. Presentation of trophies:

The chairman announced the winners of the Club awards for 2010 as follows:

Most improved Junior	Sam Cox
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It was noted that Sam had not received the trophy at last year's AGM and so as there were no contenders for 2010 he would hold it for 2010.

Most improved Senior	Mike Beach
Helicopter Trophy	Chris Marshall
Scale Trophy	Neville Polley
Down to Earth	Paul Goddard – covered under AOB.
Bill Simmonds	Steve Carr (accepted by Ian Titchell)

The Chairman announced the winner of the Chairman's Trophy, he was going to award the trophy this year to the club member who puts in an outstanding effort in assisting the club grounds man. The Chairman's award was presented to Terry Lomas.

5. Proposals:

The Chairman on behalf of the committee offered the following proposals to the membership:

Committee Proposals

i. Amendment to the club constitution to enable CASC registration with a view to making tax savings.

This was introduced by the chairman with further explanation provided by the treasurer. A tax saving of about £100/yr should result from this change. A paper copy of the proposed changes was distributed for those present to study. Neville Mattingley pointed out that officially we are a 'Society' and not a 'Club'. Alan Miles proposed that (subject to a change of wording from 'Club' to 'Society' the constitution changes be accepted; Jim Hobden seconded. A vote was taken with all bar 3 abstentions agreeing.

ii. Replacement of the mower storage shed.

The chairman outlined the current options with respect to this ongoing issue. Since the previous proposed action to try and effect a repair by welding in a new base had not been achieved it was now proposed that we procure a replacement container. The costs were in the region of several hundred pounds plus extra cost for groundwork and lifting. The

chairman requested from the floor proposals for setting aside a budget to progress the work. Neville Mattingley proposed £1250. Terry Lomas seconded. A vote was taken and agreed unanimously.

Members Proposals: None offered for consideration.

6. Officers Reports:

Chairman: Paul Goddard

For those of you who fly regularly I think you would agree a better year for weather, certainly better than 2008 and 2009. Scale Day, the sun came out for us again and I am glad to say the turn out was excellent yet again, but on Family Day we were not quite so lucky this year, however despite a chilly wind on the day we still managed to have a lot of fun.

Our Port-a-Cabin was sited in its final position with no opposition from any local authority or our landlord. Your groundsman, his assistants, and the quick response from Mr Mobby and his father, were largely responsible for this. We also purchased a new generator at a ridiculously low price, it runs like a dream and kicks out 3.2kw enough to power lights and a kettle if required and maybe we can press gang some wives to serve tea and coffee at future events. What we must establish however is how we are going to manage its use and security.

As already mentioned this year our priority is the mower shed. I am sure your 2011 committee will do its best to carry out your wishes.

In closing I would like to say a few words about John Bradley who unfortunately and unexpectedly died recently. Those of you who knew John will appreciate, and I say this lightly, that he could be an infuriating and cantankerous old git, however you will also know that he was for many years a loyal and hard working servant to our society. He set a high standard for the upkeep of our patch at Landmead a standard I hope you can agree has been maintained by its current guardians. John also served as the society Treasurer for a long time ensuring, as Bryan does today, that we remain solvent and steady in all matters monetary. John, I am sure will be sadly missed by his many friends and family.

Finally I am fully prepared to be replaced this year by a better man, but should nobody come forward I will stand as your Chairman for the coming year.

Hon Secretary: D Campling

Darryl indicated that he was happy to stand as the Secretary for 2010. He stated that he had been able to attend most of the committee meetings subject to other personal commitments. He gave his thanks to those who had substituted for him when he had not been able to attend.

Membership Secretary: Dave Bockett

2010 began in membership terms during November 2009 when all the documentation for 2010 was collated and prepared for posting. When these 'hit your doormats' and literally within days, I had started to receive the first renewals that would eventually lead to a membership total of 123 including seniors, juniors and social members. From then on until about March of 2010 renewals arrive almost daily as well as those of you who renew at the AGM meeting and subsequent meetings of the new year. I am required as Membership Secretary to ensure that the payments you make to us are, a) correct and b) that they are credited to the club's account. This I do on a regular basis and due to the wonders of the banking system I pay in the monies to the Tilehurst (Reading) branch of Lloyds so that our Treasurer can be sure that our account in Abingdon is regularly updated. The Treasurer gets a monthly summary from me of all monies that I have handled on behalf of the club. This he compares with his own figures that are sent to him by the bank via the Internet. My objective is to get through the year without causing any headaches in this world of high finance!

The membership breakdown is as follows. 1 Social Member, 3 Junior Members and 119 Senior Members. Of those seniors, 22 are also members of Romanway now affectionately known as the 'other branch'. We recruited 10 new members during 2010.

BMFA submissions are prepared for those of you who renew their BMFA with us and these are sent off in regular batches to the BMFA in Leicester together with our cheque for the cumulative total of all the subscriptions. The submissions include renewals and any new member who is joining the BMFA for the first time. The BMFA ask that clubs do not inundate them continually with subscriptions but submit them in batches once per month. This explains why sometimes it appears that your BMFA documentation does not get back to you very quickly in the early part of the year.

I have attended 11 out of the 12 Committee Meetings during 2010 and provided reports to the committee concerning Membership at each meeting.

I have the club's printer at home and have printed handbook updates and distributed them as necessary but I acknowledge the help provided by other club members with this task.

I also assist with the compilation of Wavelengths on the 2 or 3 times it is issued and print it and post it to those of you without email services as well as prepare the PDF version for emailing.

During the latter part of 2010 I have created a new club website which I hope has been a small success as far as these things go. I have taught myself to use a completely new set of software for this purpose and I personally am quite pleased with it. I will keep it maintained which was the problem with the previous site and I shall continue to add small parts to it from time to time. I hope to be able to add a password-protected page that all members can access for such activities where telephone numbers can be accessed (e.g. Training Instructors) and that non-members would not be able to get into.

I have also assisted with committee organised Landmead events, Scale Day and Family Day, where I looked after, together with other committee members, the Tx pound.

During 2010 I also found time to get a bit of flying in from time to time.

Finally, I am prepared to stand for re-election to the post of Membership Secretary in 2011.

Treasurer: Brian Durrant

Copies of the audited 'End of Year' Accounts have been distributed around the hall. These accounts have been audited by Alan Miles and Deryck Crossley and I thank them for their time and effort.

Also, for your reference, are copies of the Income and Expenditure budget agreed by the committee at the beginning of the year which shows how we fared against our target. The budget was agreed by your committee based on 115 senior members joining. This budget has been used throughout the year to monitor the Club's income and expenditure. At the end of the year the records show we exceeded the predicted income by 4% and expenditure was 91% of budget.

There are a few items on the statement I would like to comment on: -

On the Income side: -

- Interest on the Savings Account has dropped dramatically as predicted last year due to the decrease in interest rates. It does not appear there will be any significant increase in interest rates over the next year but we continue to monitor the situation.
- The monies received under 'Club Activities' again is mainly due to the efforts of Lenny with the BBQ on Scale Day and Family Day. Also included under this head are the pilots fees paid on Scale Day.

On the expenditure side: -

- This year the field rent reached the 'catch-up' figure of £3000.00 required by the farmer and a percentage increase has been negotiated for 2011.
- The amount of Corporation Tax paid to HMRC is lower this year due to the reduction in interest received on the savings account where interest is paid gross.
- The sum of £1817.31 against 'Exceptional Purchases' is the amount spent on the new club hut plus the incidental costs a breakdown of which I have if anyone would like to more detail.

On 20th November, the end our financial year, the account balances were as follows: -

Current Account	£148.43
Savings Account	£16160.29
Cash	£9.07

This gives us a total of £16,317.79 liquid assets

This produces an overall deficit for the year of £1256.09. If the cabin costs etc. are excluded there would have been a surplus of £561.00.

If you have any questions or queries relating to these accounts we would be pleased to try and answer them.

There were no queries on the budget; Ian Titchell proposed that it be accepted, Shawn Sage seconded.

Public Relations and Welfare Officer: Dave Roberts

The officers of the Society welcome suggestions for improvements to the services and facilities provided to members. The officers try their best to represent the membership. We don't see enough members at the club meetings. Perhaps we need to communicate better, but it is in all the committee minds that we represent the greater membership.

What the committee did well:- we got the portacabin positioned with help from other volunteer members. Being on the committee isn't always easy and can be a balancing act

Public Relations

Liased with farmer, Neil Walker, and have kept him happy. Attended most committee meetings and club nights, I attended the Scale Day, but missed the Family Day due to a month working in China.

I have helped produce the Wavelengths and taken meeting minutes as required. Have helped with training of 2 members. There has not been much training, but Mike Beach and Dave Day have both been very enthusiastic whatever the weather. The committee believes in the rule of having an A test for unsupervised flying and I have requested that training sessions are considered open to members wishing to brush up on the A test, (using their own models).

WELFARE

I have a second CRB (Criminal Records Bureau) full disclosure. No welfare issues reported

Safety Officer: Ed Darter

Once again a pretty good year safety wise. A few more indiscretions had had to be dealt with; read and be familiar wit the rule book. Safety at events has been good with only one crash at Scale Day and there were no reports of medical incidents. There has been only 1 change to the rule book.

Full size flyers continue to be a problem; I have posted a copy of our requirements in their hanger and we are maintaining a log of events. The farmer is aware of the issue.

LiPo battery handling is becoming more of an issue, there has been a model destroyed by a battery fire and a very near miss with a fire in a car – the availability of a fire extinguisher would be prudent. A bucket of salt water is available for member to use to neutralize LiPo's but final disposal remains the responsibility of the battery owner.

Ed reported that the training scheme remains underused. Finally he reinforced the objective of attaining the 'A' cert.

My annual reminder !

- Black wire syndrome – Check for poor condition of electronics and black wire syndrome.
- Brittle plastic control linkages etc.... check your models over for early signs of failure.

Ed finished by saying that he was prepared to stand as safety officer again for 2011.

Competitions and events.

The Chairman thanked Ian Titchell for all his help in running the Scale Day; Ian has resigned during the year for health reasons and therefore in 2011 a new events organiser would need to be identified.

7. Election of officers for 2008:

Paul summarised this section by stating that all committee members were prepared to stand in 2010 but that Richard Voller had volunteered for a committee post. This was voted upon and agreed unanimously. The committee for 2011 would therefore be:-

Chairman	Paul Goddard.
Hon Secretary	Darryl Campling.
Treasurer	Bryan Durrant.
Membership Secretary	Dave Bockett.
Competitions & Events	Dave Franks.
Public Relations Officer	Dave Roberts.
Safety Officer	Ed Darter.
Committee Member	Chris Marshall.
Committee Member	Darren Lomas.
Committee Member	Richard Voller.

8. Any Other Business.

- The chairman introduced the topic of the 'Down to Earth' trophy which was mentioned under 4) and handed over the announcement to the Treasurer who disclosed that the committee had agreed that it should be awarded to the chairman.
- The chairman reminded those present of the recent death of John Bradley who had for many years put considerable effort into running the club. The present committee had discussed the possibility of creating a 'Memorial Trophy' and making John's name the first that should appear on it. There was a counter proposal from the floor (Derek Crossley) that a specific 'John Bradley' cup could be introduced. It was pointed out that this had been considered but with the future in mind and to avoid the possibility of numerous individual trophies being created the former proposal was preferred by the committee. The intention would be to present it to the winner of competitions at Family Day. A vote was held and the initial proposal passed 18/11.
- The chairman mentioned the loss of very valuable model recently which was suspected to have been 'shot down'. The membership were requested to make sure that they report all such events. Secretary's note - this is subject to an ongoing committee action.
- The chairman raised the question of whether the membership wanted a January meeting. Ian Titchell proposed that we should; Terry Lomas seconded. This meeting will therefore take place 6th Jan.

9. Appointment of auditors for 2009.

Deryck Crossley and Alan Miles have confirmed that they are prepared to act as Auditors again for 2011.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21:45.

The Chairman stated that the 2011 AGM will be held on the Thursday the 1st December.